

What is claimed is:

1. Surgical apparatus comprising:

an elongated cannula having distal and proximal ends and including a lumen therein between ends for receiving an endoscope in rotatable orientation therein for supporting rotation of the cannula about an endoscope disposed within said lumen; and

an elongated control rod rotatably and translationally supported by the cannula eccentric of said lumen, with a dissection probe positioned at one end of the control rod near the distal end of the cannula for rotational and translational positioning relative thereto, the control rod including another end disposed near the proximal end of the cannula to facilitate manual rotational and translational manipulation of the dissection probe at said one end of the control rod in association with selective rotation of the cannula about an endoscope disposed within said lumen.

2. Surgical apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said distal end of the cannula includes a recess for enclosing the dissection probe therein in response to inward translational movement of the control rod relative to said distal end and in response to rotational alignment of (a) the cannula about an endoscope disposed within the lumen, and (b) the dissection probe rotatable with the control rod.

3. Surgical apparatus as in claim 2 including a fluid seal disposed within the recess about the control rod near the distal end of the cannula and disposed to receive an endoscope therethrough for maintaining fluid-tight engagement in response to relative movement of the endoscope and control rod relative to the fluid seal.

4. Surgical apparatus according to claim 2 including a fluid seal disposed near the proximal end of the cannula for receiving an endoscope therethrough to maintain fluid-tight engagement in response to relative movements of the endoscope.

5. Surgical apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the control rod and the dissection probe attached thereto translate relative to the cannula from within the recess at the distal end thereof to a location spaced forward of the distal end and within the viewing field of the endoscope.

6. Surgical apparatus as in claim 1 wherein an endoscope is positionable in substantially fixed axial position relative to the ends of the cannula.

7. Surgical apparatus according to claim 6 wherein an endoscope having a viewing end is positionable in fixed axial position relative to the cannula with the viewing end recessed within the cannula inwardly from the distal end thereof to exclude distal edges of the cannula from within a viewing field of the endoscope.

8. Surgical apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the dissection probe includes a substantial loop positioned in a plane skewed relative to the axis of the control rod.

9. Surgical apparatus comprising:

an elongated cannula having distal and proximal ends and including a first lumen therein between ends for rotatable receiving an endoscope therein; and

a second lumen in the cannula eccentric of the first lumen between the ends of the cannula for supporting an

instrument therein for rotational and translational manipulation thereof near the distal end of the cannula via controls near the proximal end of the cannula.

10. Surgical apparatus as in claim 9 including a fluid seal disposed within the second lumen near the distal end of the cannula to receive an instrument therethrough for maintaining fluid-tight engagement in response to relative movement of the instrument relative to the fluid seal.

11. Surgical apparatus as in claim 9 wherein the instrument within the second lumen includes an endoscope.

12. A method of endoscopic surgery with a cannula including a dissection probe positionable thereon and including a lumen for receiving an endoscope therein, the method comprising:

assembling an endoscope within the lumen of the cannula for rotation of the cannula relative to the endoscope at substantially fixed axial orientation relative to the cannula to provide visualization from a distal end of the cannula;

supporting the dissection probe on the cannula for rotation and translation relative thereto and in eccentric orientation relative to visualization through the endoscope, with the dissection probe near the distal end of the cannula;

inserting the distal end of the cannula within a surgical site; and

selectively rotating the cannula relative to the endoscope received therein, and selectively rotating and translating the dissection probe relative to the cannula for selectively positioning the dissection probe within the surgical site in visualization through the endoscope.

13. A method of endoscopic surgery with a cannula including a first lumen for receiving an endoscope therein, and a second lumen for receiving therein an endoscopic instrument having an operative tip, the method comprising:

assembling an endoscope within the first lumen of the cannula for rotation of the cannula relative thereto at substantially fixed axial orientation relative to the cannula to provide visualization via the endoscope near a distal end of the cannula;

supporting the endoscopic instrument on the cannula for rotation and translation relative thereto and in eccentric orientation relative to visualization through the endoscope, with the operative tip of the endoscopic instrument near the distal end of the cannula;

inserting the distal end of the cannula within a surgical site; and

selectively rotating the cannula relative to the endoscope received therein, and selectively rotating and translating the endoscopic instrument relative to the cannula for selectively positioning the endoscopic instrument within the surgical site in visualization through the endoscope.

14. Surgical apparatus as in claim 9 wherein the instrument within the second lumen includes an elongated rod with a dissection probe attached at an end thereof disposed near the distal end of the cannula.

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